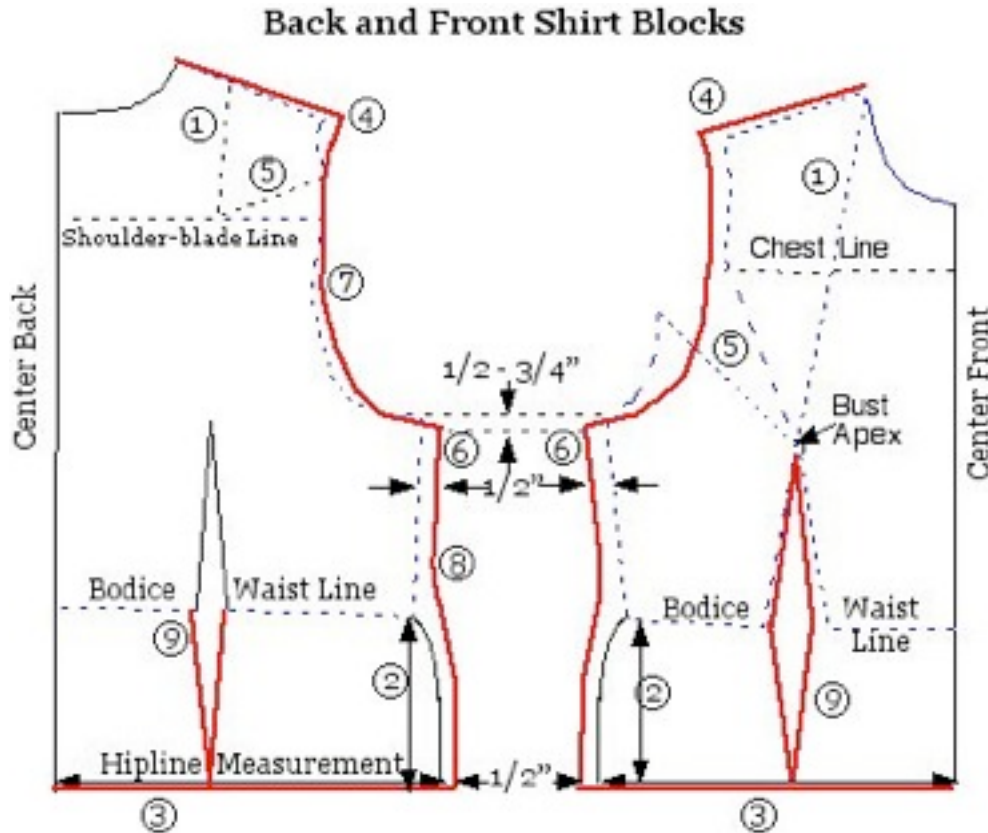# Shirt Block

Use your bodice sloper and measurements from your skirt sloper to create a shirt block. See 'References' for excellent resources that helped me to learn how to do this.

These sketches indicate sloper pieces with dotted lines (if they will be ignored in the final draft).

Back and Front Shirt Blocks

1. Pivot to move shoulder/neck darts to armhole on Front & Back;
2. Measure down 7 - 8" from waist at side seam, to mark depth for hipline position;
3. Draw hipline perpendicular to center front/back, using Front & Back widths per skirt sloper, plus 1/2 - 3/4" ease;
4. Draw shoulder, raising 1/4" and extending 1/2 - 3/4" at armhole end;
5. Ignore armhole darts on F & B when drawing armhole curve;
6. Mark point 1/2" beyond , and 1/2 - 3/4" below armhole at underarm;
7. Draw smooth armhole curve from new shoulder seam to new point at underarm on both Front & Back; curve should be perpendicular to shoulder line;
8. Draw smooth side seam from new armhole to hipline, maintaining at least ½" added width for ease; side seam should be perpendicular to armhole at underarm and to hip line.
9. Extend Front & Back waist dart legs, tapering to meet at hip, but narrow the F waist dart to 1" wide. For some styles, these darts will be ignored.

Sleeve for Shirt Block

Compare Bodice Sleeve Sloper with Shirt Sleeve Block
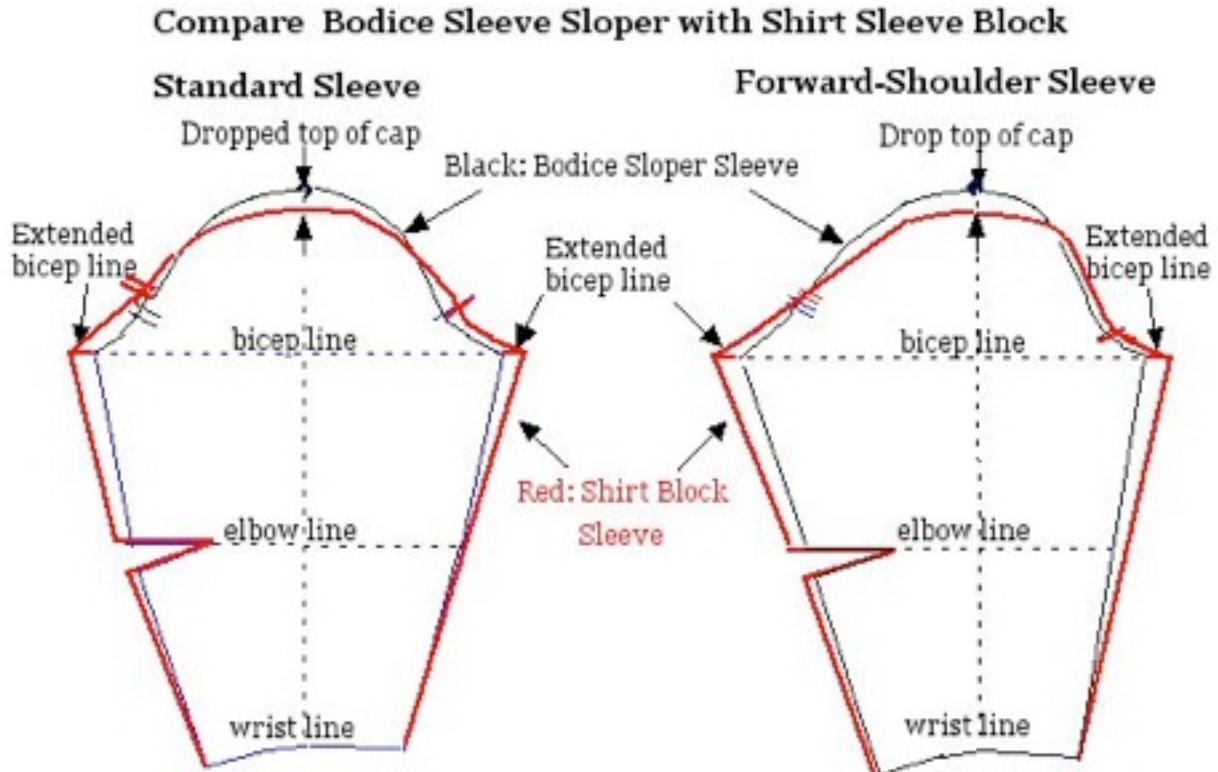
General rules of thumb for sleeves:

- As the shirt shoulder is extended beyond the armhole, the cap height of the sleeve shortens by the same amount;

- As the bottom of the shirt armhole is dropped at the underarm, the bicep line widens at each end by that same amount.

- As the shoulder line moves forward, the center of the wrist line also moves forward to align with the new shoulder line position.

See separate article: Drafting a Sleeve Block on the EssentiaList website for more detail on how this is done. .

References

1. *Designing Patterns, A Fresh Approach to Pattern Cutting,* by Hilary Campbell, published by Stanley Thornes (Publishers) Inc.

2. *Threads Magazine,* Volume 137, July 2008: *From Sloper to Shirt;* and Volume 138, August 2008: *Use your Sloper to Finish Your Shirt,* both by Kathleen Cheetham